

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Alma Schurig, et al.  
Serial Number: 09/988,467  
Filing Date: November 20, 2001  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS  
FOR AN ENVIRONMENTALLY  
HARDENED ETHERNET  
NETWORK SYSTEM

§ Atty.Dkt.No.: 5957-03700  
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§ Examiner: Mattis, Jason E.  
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§ Group/Art Unit: 2461  
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§ Conf. No. 8649  
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Date

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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED APRIL 6, 2010**

This paper is submitted in response to an Office Action of April 6, 2010, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the case as listed below.